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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 EB-11 FAA-00 NIC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /132 W
---------- 082229
R 141218Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1136
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, PFOR, UR, US
SUBJECT: SOVIETS SPOTLIGHT U.S. POSITION ON ISRAEL
AIR INCIDENT

MONTREAL FOR USREP ICAO

1. SOVIETS HAVE RELEASED THROUGH TASS A QUASI-OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF LEBANESE CIVIL AIR-CRAFT, ATTRIBUTED ONLY TO "COMPETENT SOVIET CIRCLES," CONDEMNING DEED AND ASSERTING THAT ISRAEL MUST BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT. PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN PREDICTABLY INDIGNANT, BUT THERE IS ALSO AN ELEMENT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - ALMOST SMUGNESS - THAT U.S. HAS BEEN PLACED IN POSITION OF CRITICIZING ISRAELI ACT.

2. DEPARTMENT'S WEEKEND REACTION DEPLORING INTERCEP-TION WAS PROMPTLY REPORTED ON MOSCOW TELEVISION PRIME-TIME NEWS. PRAVDA AUGUST 14 REPORTS OPENING OF SC DEBATE, GLOATING THAT "EVEN U.S., WHICH HAS USUALLY
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SUPPORTED ISRAELI POLICY, HAS BEEN FORCED TO DECLARE

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ITS PUBLIC CONDEMNATION." PRAVDA STORY BY ITS NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT KURDYUMOV GOES ON TO VIEW SC ACTION ON LEBANESE COMPLAINT AS TEST OF US WILLINGNESS SUPPORT MEASURES TO PREVENT RECURRENCE OF SUCH "ACTS OF PIRACY."

3. COMMENT: SOVIETS CLEARLY WELCOME EVIDENCE OF U.S.-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES ON ANY ISSUE, SINCE THIS TENDS TO OFFSET WELL-PUBLICIZED PROBLEMS MOSCOW HAS WITH ITS ARAB FRIENDS.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW09636
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730839/aaaabckd.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 SEP 2001
Review Event:
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Subject: SOVIETS SPOTLIGHT U.S. POSITION ON ISRAEL AIR INCIDENT
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